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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/064,882	08/27/2002	Fuh-Cheng Jong	7857-US-PA	6187

31561 7590 02/11/2003

JIANQ CHYUN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE
7 FLOOR-1, NO. 100
ROOSEVELT ROAD, SECTION 2
TAIPEI, 100
TAIWAN

EXAMINER

PIZARRO CRESPO, MARCOS D

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2814

DATE MAILED: 02/11/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/064,882

Applicant(s)

JONG ET AL.

Examiner

Marcos D. Pizarro-Crespo

Art Unit

2814

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 August 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 August 2002 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other:

Attorney's Docket Number: 7857-US-PA

Filing Date: 8/27/2002

Claimed Foreign Priority Date: -- none --

Applicant(s): Jong et al.

Examiner: Marcos D. Pizarro-Crespo

DETAILED ACTION

This Office action responds to application ser. no. 10/064,882 filed on 8/27/2002.

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character **140** has been used to designate both a drain region (see, e.g., fig. 1) and a channel region (see, e.g., fig. 2).
2. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description (see, e.g., [par0026]/II.2): **112"**.
3. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference sign(s) not mentioned in the description: **112'** (see, e.g., fig. 1).
4. A proposed drawing correction, corrected drawings, or amendment to the specification to add reference sign(s) in the description, are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Takashino (US 2003/0011007).

7. Takashino shows (see, e.g., fig. 17) all aspects of the instant invention including a hexagonal-gate flash memory-cell, comprising:

- a substrate **20**
- a source region **50** inside the substrate **20**
- a drain region **50** inside the substrate **20**
- a channel formed in the substrate **20** between the source and the drain regions **50**
- a gate structure over the substrate **20** between the source region and the drain regions **50**

wherein the gate structure further includes an oxide-nitride-oxide layer **30** and a control gate layer **40** sequentially stacked over the substrate **20** such that the gate structure has a hexagonal profile when viewed from the top.

8. Regarding claims 2, 4, 7, and 11, Takashino shows (see, e.g., fig. 17) that the size of both the source region and the drain region are almost identical.

9. Regarding claims 3 and 6, see the comments stated above in paragraph 7, which are considered repeated here. In addition, Takashino shows (see, e.g., fig. 17) that in a direction perpendicular to the channel, the width of the gate structure increases gradually from the source region towards a pre-determined location and decreases thereafter towards the drain region.

10. Regarding claims 5 and 8, Takashino shows (see, e.g., fig. 17) that the pre-determined location is roughly at a symmetrical line that runs across the central region of the gate structure.

11. Regarding claim 9, Takashino shows (see, e.g., fig. 17) that the gradual widening of the gate structure from the source region towards the pre-determined direction while moving along a direction perpendicular to the channel, and the gradual narrowing back towards the drain region produces a roughly hexagonal structure.

12. Regarding claim 10, see the comments stated above in paragraph 7, which are considered repeated here. In addition, Takashino shows (see, e.g., fig. 17) that in a direction perpendicular to the channel, the width of the gate structure is greater than that of both source and drain regions.

Conclusion

13. Papers related to this application may be submitted directly to Art Unit 2814 by facsimile transmission. Papers should be faxed to Art Unit 2814 via the Art Unit 2814 Fax Center located in Crystal Plaza 4, room 3C23. The faxing of such papers must

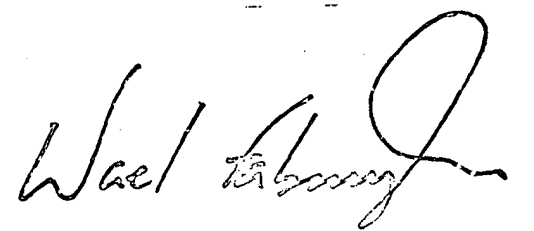
conform to the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (15 November 1989). The Art Unit 2814 Fax Center number is **(703) 308-7722** or **-7724**. The Art Unit 2814 Fax Center is to be used only for papers related to Art Unit 2814 applications.

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Marcos D. Pizarro-Crespo** at **(703) 308-6558** and between the hours of 9:30 AM to 8:00 PM (Eastern Standard Time) Monday through Thursday or by e-mail via Marcos.Pizarro@uspto.gov. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wael Fahmy, can be reached on (703) 308-4918.

15. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the **Group 2800 Receptionist** at **(703) 308-0956**.

16. The following list is the Examiner's field of search for the present Office Action:

Field of Search	Date
U.S. Class / Subclass(es): 257/202,295,298,314,317,324-326,401,E29.309 (H01L29/792); 438/216,261,287,591-593	1/30/2003
Other Documentation: PLUS Analysis	1/29/2003
Electronic Database(s): EAST (USPAT, EPO, JPO, PGPub)	1/30/2003


SUPERVISORY PRIMARY EXAMINER
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